

~~TOP SECRET~~

818

EUROPE

1. GREECE: Van Fleet considers Greek Army strength inadequate--
US Ambassador Grady transmits the considered judgment of General Van Fleet that the present strength of the Greek Army is inadequate for controlling the border and maintaining internal security. Van Fleet is convinced, after a study of the Greek military situation, that the Greek forces should be enlarged to include 12 divisions and to reach a total strength of about 240,000, exclusive of a 22,000-man gendarmerie. (Greek ground forces now include 8 divisions and number 197,000.)

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

2. PALESTINE: Israeli attacks add to refugee problem--US Representative Stabler in Amman has been informed by the British Minister to Transjordan that the Jewish offensive in the Negeb has induced a flight of Arab civilians from the nearby towns of Hebron and Bethlehem to Jericho. The British Minister pointed out that this development, and the possibility of similar panic among Arabs in the old city of Jerusalem, will intensify the already grave refugee problem.

Document No. 617
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
☒ DECLASSIFIED
Class. CONFIDENTIAL ES S C
Auth: 100-100000-173
Date: 1-6-MAR-1978 173 026

~~TOP SECRET~~